

# **INTELLIGENCE PREPARATION OF THE BATTLE (IPB)**

# INTEGRATE INTELLIGENCE PREPARATION OF THE BATTLEFIELD (IPB) PROCESS INTO MISSION PLANNING

**Conditions:** As a company commander or senior warrant officer you must employ the IPB process into your mission planning either in the field or garrison. You have the Operations Plan (OPLAN), Operations Order (OPORD), maps of the Area of Interest (AI), doctrinal templates, appropriate overlays, intelligence requirements of higher, adjacent, and subordinate units.

**Standard:** Implement the four steps of the IPB process into the unit's mission based on the Commander's priority intelligence requirements (PIR) and IAW local SOP.

# IDENTIFY THE BATTLEFIELD ENVIRONMENT

- Identify characteristics of the battlefield which will influence friendly and threat operations.
- Identify the limits of the command's **AO (the geographic area where the commander is assigned the responsibility & authority to conduct operations)** and Battlespace (The physical volume in which the commander seeks to dominate the enemy).
- Identify the limits of the **AI (The area from which info and intel are required to permit planning & successful conduct of the commander's operations)**.
- Identify the amount of detail required and feasible within the current time constraints

# MILITARY ASPECTS OF THE TERRAIN

- ***Observation and Fields of Fire***
- ***Avenues of Approach***
- ***Cover and Concealment***
- ***Obstacles***
- ***Key terrain: Any feature or area which offers a marked advantage to whom***

# MILITARY ASPECTS OF WEATHER ANALYZED TO DETERMINE IT'S EFFECTS ON FRIENDLY AND ENEMY OPERATIONS

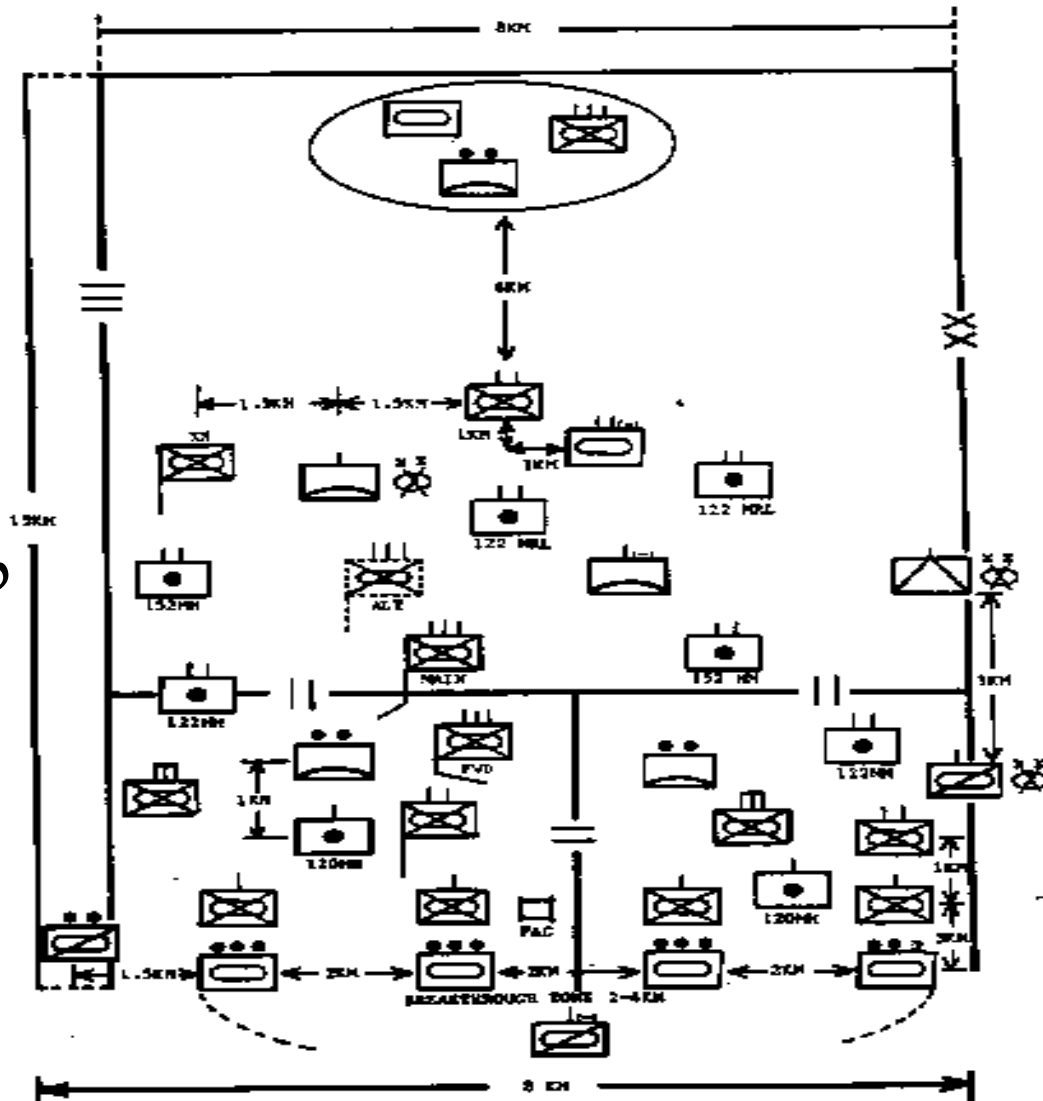
- *Visibility*
- *Winds*
- *Precipitation*
- *Cloud Cover*
- *Temperature & Humidity*

# EVALUATE THE THREAT

- Create or Update Threat Models
- Identify High Value Targets
- Identify Threat Capabilities
- Identify Gaps in Current Intelligence Knowledge

IDEAL  
CONDITIONS

UNRESTRICTED



# DETERMINE THREAT COURSES OF ACTION

- Identify likely objectives and desired end state.
- Identify the full set of COAs available.
- *Evaluate and prioritize each COA by the likely order of adoption.*
- Develop each COA in the amount of detail time allows.
- ***Prioritize by enemy's likely order of adoption***



# THREAT INTEGRATION TEMPLATES

**Situation Template: Doctrinal template with terrain and weather constraints applied.**

Event Template: Depicts the named areas of interest where activity or lack of activity will indicate which COA the threat has adopted.

Decision Support Template:  
Combined intelligence estimate and operations estimate in graphic form.

# REVIEW

- Identified the battlefield environment.
- Identified the battlefield's effects on threat and friendly capabilities.
- Evaluated the threat.
- Determined threat courses of action that will influence accomplishment of the friendly mission.